

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

2. RERTOFF DAVIDSON MET WITH NEA/PAB SEPTEMBER 11 TO REPORT ON HIS RECENT TALKS WITH UNHCR IN GENEVA REGARDING THE AFGHAN REFUGEE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN. DAVIDSON CONCLUDED THAT UNHCR DOES INTEND TO MOUNT A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ASSIST THESE REFUGEES. HE BELIEVES THE MAY UNHCR MISSION TO PAKISTAN WAS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL IN NATURE AIMED AT DETERMINING WHETHER THE UNHCR COULD WORK IN THE AREA. THE SECOND MISSION WHICH ARRIVED IN LATE AUGUST WAS DESIGNED TO DETERMINE REQUIREMENTS.

3. DAVIDSON BELIEVES UNHCR WILL HAVE DIFFICULTY DETERMINING WHO IS A LEGITIMATE REFUGEE AND WHO ISN'T, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE TRADITIONAL CROSS-BORDER MIGRATION BY AREA TRIBES AND THE FACT THAT ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE REFUGEES ARE IN CAMPS (MANY ARE STAYING WITH RELATIVES OR CAMPING ON THEIR OWN WITH THEIR [ILLEG]). THE UNHCR IS [ILLEG] TO INSIST THAT CAMPS AND UNHCR ACTIVITIES BE SET [ILLEG] EAST 20 KM. FROM THE PAK/AFGHAN BORDER.

POL

CHARGE
ECON
RF
CHRON

TO DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF STATE
FROM AMEMBASSY, GENEVA
C.I. 00000 121
O P 132022Z SEP 75
FM GENEVA 141000
TO DIRECTOR/DEPT. OF STATE GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0004
SUBJECT/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 7120
INFO BUREAU/AMEMBASSY WASH DC PRIORITY 0000
UNEP-O/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0177
UNEP-O/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0100
UNEP-O/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 1534
UNEP-O/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 075044Z 1216
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240250

GENEVA FOR MARINELLI

T.O. 12866: CDS 05/10/35 (COON, JANE A.) NTA

TACS: PEPR, SREF, SHOM, AF, TS, PC

SUBJECT: (C) AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 0704; (B) KARACHI 0554; (C) GENEVA 1450L;
(D) ISLAMABAD 1400 (ALL TOTAL)

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. DAVIDSON MET WITH NEA/PAS SEPTEMBER 11 TO REPORT ON HIS RECENT TALKS WITH UNEH IN GENEVA REGARDING THE AFGHAN REFUGEE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN. DAVIDSON CONCLUDED THAT UNEH DOES INTEND TO POSE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ASSIST THESE REFUGEES. HE BELIEVES THE MAY UNEH MISSION TO PAKISTAN WAS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL IN NATURE AIMED AT DETERMINING WHETHER THE UNEH COULD WORK IN THE AREA. THE SECOND MISSION WHICH ARRIVED IN LATE AUGUST WAS DESIGNED TO DETERMINE REQUIREMENTS.

3. DAVIDSON BELIEVES UNEH WILL HAVE DIFFICULTY DETERMINING WHO IS A LEGITIMATE REFUGEE AND WHO ISN'T, ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE SPATIAL CROSS-BORDER MIGRATION BY AREA AREAS AND THE FACT THAT ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE REFUGEES ARE IN CAMPS (MANY ARE STAYING WITH RELATIVES OR CAMPING ON THEIR OWN WITH THEIR FLOCKS). THE UNEH IS

GOING TO INSURE THAT CAMPS AND CAMP ACTIVITIES BE SET UP AT LEAST 70 KM. FROM THE PAK/AFGHAN BORDER.

5

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

4. DAVIDSON DISCUSSED QUESTIONS OF TIMING THE UNHCR, SUGGESTING THAT THE COMING OF WINTER ARGUED FOR INITIATING A PROGRAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNHCR IS AIMING FOR MID-OCTOBER TO COINCIDE WITH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED AT THAT TIME. DAVIDSON URGED AND UNHCR AGREED, HOWEVER, TO SEE IF SOMETHING MIGHT BE INITIATED BEFORE THEN.

7. FOR ISLAMABAD: RE YOUR SUGGESTION IN PARA 12 REF A, WE SHARE EMBASSY KABUL'S CONCERNS ABOUT TOO ACTIVE A POLICY OF U.S. OFFICIALS VISITING REFUGEE CAMPS IN PAKISTAN. WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS, BUT AGREE THAT OCCASIONS MAY ARISE WHICH MIGHT PRODUCE APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT THE CAMPS. IN OUR VIEW THESE WOULD INCLUDE GOP OR UNHCR-ORGANIZED VISITS FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO PAKISTAN.

8. FOR GENEVA: WE UNDERSTAND THE SECOND UNHCR TEAM HAS RETURNED TO GENEVA FROM PAKISTAN. REQUEST YOU SEEK AN EARLY MEETING WITH APPROPRIATE UNHCR OFFICIALS FOR AN UPDATE OF UNHCR'S PLANS BASED ON TEAM'S FINDINGS. VANCE.

4. DAVIDSON DISCUSSED COORDINATIONS OF MEETING WITH UNHCR, SUGGESTING THAT THE COMING OF WINTER WOULD BE AN IDEAL TIME FOR INITIATING A PROGRAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNHCR IS AIMING FOR "15-20" OCTOBER TO COINCIDE WITH EFFECTIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED AT THAT TIME. DAVIDSON ASKED AND UNHCR AGREED, HOWEVER, TO SEE IF SOMETHING MIGHT BE INITIATED BEFORE THEN.

5. DAVIDSON LEARNED THAT UNHCR IS CONTINUING A PROGRAM OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS 12-13 MILLION. FROM THE U.S., UNHCR WOULD BASICALLY BE INTERESTED IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD CASP CONTRIBUTION (IN PAST SIMILAR EFFORTS U.S. SHARE HAS AVERAGED ABOUT ONE-FOURTH TO ONE-THIRD OF THE TOTAL).

6. DAVIDSON ASKED UNHCR THROUGH WHOM THEY WOULD BE WORKING IN IMPLEMENTING A RELIEF EFFORT. MOST ACTIVITIES WOULD BE WORKED OUT THROUGH THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT, AND MIGHT INVOLVE TRIBAL LEADERS GIVEN THE PECULIAR ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE FRONTIER REGION. UNHCR MAY ALSO PARTICIPATE.

7. FOR ISLAMABAD: RE YOUR SUGGESTION IN PARA 12 OF A, WE SHARE EMBASSY PAKISTAN'S CONCERNS ABOUT TOO ACTIVE A POLICY OF U.S. OFFICIALS VISITING REFUGEE CAMPS IN PAKISTAN. WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS, BUT AGREE THAT OCCASIONS MAY ARISE WHERE WIDER PROBLEM APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT THE CAMPS. IN AND THAT THESE WOULD INCLUDE COP OR UNHCR-ORGANIZED VISITS FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO PAKISTAN.

8. FOR GENEVA: WE UNDERSTAND THE SECOND UNHCR TEAM HAS RETURNED TO GENEVA FROM PAKISTAN. REQUEST YOU SEEK AN EARLY MEETING WITH APPROPRIATE UNHCR OFFICIALS FOR AN UPDATE OF UNHCR'S PLANS BASED ON TEAM'S FINDINGS. VANCE
BT
#2530